THE CITY OF

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Press Advisory * Press Advisory * Press Advisory

For Immediate Release Contact Jeff Buell (518) 270-4554

(TROY- January 12, 2004) The City of Troy will begin the process of demolishing nine row houses Monday that burned during a three-alarm fire on Friday night at 119th Street and 6th Avenue.

The buildings were declared an emergency during the fire due to the complete damage each sustained. The demolition will begin between 12:45 p.m and 1 p.m.

Troy Mayor Harry Tutunjian said Monday the city took quick action on the building, not wanting to sit by and wait for something terrible to happen.

"It needs to be the policy of the city to move act quickly in these situations and remove buildings that cause a blight on neighborhoods or are an immediate danger to the neighbors," Tutunjian said. "These buildings fall under both of those categories."

Tutunjian again expressed his condolences to the residents who lost many of their possessions in the blaze, and to the Troy Fire Department as well, which braved below zero temperatures in fighting the fire.

"We understand this is a difficult time for the residents who lived in these homes," Tutunjian said. "Our thoughts are with them. The city also owes a big debt of gratitude to the firefighters who stood out in the cold weather Friday night to the job they do so well."

Any questions on the demolition can be directed to the Mayor's office at 270-4401.